Mr. N. Narayana Kurup : May I know from the honourable member whether if the boats are rendered useless any compensation is given?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar: That is a hypothetical question.

Mr. N. Narayana Kurup: May I know from the honourable member whether he is aware that boats are spoiled or rendered useless while in the custody of the Government?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar. No Sir.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Wet lands cultivated during the Kanni crop.

3. **Mr. T. M. Chidambarathanu Pillai** (*Thovala cum Agastiswaram*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) what is the approximate area of wet lands cultivated during the Kanni crop of 1120 in Nanchinad;

(*b*) what is the average reading in the Pechipparai reservoir from the 10th Chithirai 1119 (the date of kalavarampu) to the end of Audy 1119; and

(*c*) whether the Government are aware that the water in the Pechipparai Reservoir is hardly sufficient to complete the Kanni crop and to begin the Kumbhom crop in 1120, and

(*d*) what do the Government propose to do in the distribution of water to prevent failure of crops.

Mr. I. C. Chacko: (*a*) 38,000 acres.

(*b*) It is not possible to give the average reading in the reservoir as the readings rose up and went down several times within the period from 10-9-1119 to 31-12-1119.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) A turn system is being adopted in consultation with the prominent ryots and members of Legislature.

Breach in the road leading to Thazhakudy.

4. **Mr. T. M. Chidambarathanu Pillai:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware of a breach in the road leading to Thazhakudy and other important villages from the Main Southern road through Thiruppathisaram and making the road unfit for vehicular traffic over an year;

(*b*) has the department taken any action to repair the same ;

(*c*) if so, how long will it take to make it useful to the public, and

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Mr. T. M. Chidambarathanu Pillai]

(*d*) whether they are aware that on account of the above breach in the road, the Therukal which feeds several tanks such as Therukulam, Thandayarkulam, Nambikulam etc., has also become unserviceable and consequently the ryots in the above places are put to much inconvenience and loss?

Mr. I. C. Chacko: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The work will be done in the next working season.

(*d*) No. Water was let down the Therukal and the tanks referred to after closing the breach before the irrigation season of 1119.

Construction of a tank in Thovala

5. **Mr. T. M. Chidambarathanu Pillai**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware that estimntes have been sanctioned and contracts given for the construction of a tank for water for drinking purposes in Thovala as early as 1116, and

(*b*) will they be pleased to enquire into the cause for the inordinate delay in completing the construction of the above tank in view of the fact that the people are put to considerable difficulty in getting drinking water during the major portion of the year?

Mr. I. C. Chacko: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The delay is due to the following reasons *viz.*

(1) that the lands were handed over to the department late,

(2) that the work can be done only during the closure season; and

(3) that there was some difficulty in getting the work done through the contractor selected due to increase in the cost of labour.

Standing Committee for the improvement of tanks.

6. **Mr. T. M. Chidambarathanu Pillai**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) how many meetings were held by the Standing Committee for the improvement of tanks, storage and reservoirs in the Nagercoil Division during 1118 and 1119,

(*b*) whether the Committee has allotted any amount for the improvement of such tanks during the above said period, and

(*c*) the number of irrigation tanks to be investigated for improvement in Thovala and Agastiswaram taluks, the number of tanks investigated for improvement and the number actually improved together with the amount allotted and expended for such improvement and the balance left unexpended?

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